Union Territories containing a list of biological agents used as weapons, along with signs and symptoms, likely method of dissemination, incubation period, lethality and the availability of vaccines, anti-microbial therapy and treatment. They have been requested to earmark maximum number of beds for emergency/ contingency, stocking of vaccines/sera/drugs to the extent possible and setting up of special teams of doctors for coordinated action. It has also been requested that these teams should be sensitized on the impact of such weapons and treatment mesures.

A general awareness campaign regarding Anthrax has been launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

In addition, all States/Union Territories have been sensitized to remain vigilant to the emerging threats to internal security and to have contingency plans in readiness to deal with any eventuality, including precautions against weapons of mass destruction.

Renting out licenced arms to criminals

344. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that licened arms and ammunitions are being rented out to hardcore criminals and organised gangs in their nefarious designs in Uttar Pradesh particularly on Indo-Nepal border;

(b) if so, how many such cases have been reported so far; and

(c) what steps Government has taken or propose to take to arrest the members of the organised gangs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI:) (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.